200 Sycamore Street Elkins, WV 26241 304-636-1800

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Date: February 24, 2003

## Proposed Threatened and Endangered Species Amendment to the Monongahela National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

## Comments still being accepted

## Dear Interested Citizens:

This letter is to inform you that comments concerning the Proposed Threatened and Endangered Species Amendment to the 1986 *Monongahela National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan)* will continue to be accepted until March 31, 2003.

As my January 29, 2003, letter indicated, I am considering authorizing a non-significant amendment to the *Forest Plan* to ensure pertinent new information for threatened, endangered, and proposed species is incorporated into existing *Forest Plan* direction, standards, and monitoring requirements. An electronic copy of the environmental assessment for the proposed amendment is posted on the Monongahela National Forest website at <a href="www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/environmental/environmental\_index.htm">www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/environmental\_index.htm</a>. We invite you to review it and send your questions or comments regarding the proposal to <a href="lihise@fs.fed.us">lihise@fs.fed.us</a> or Attention: Laura Hise, 200 Sycamore Street, Elkins, WV, 26241. Please include (1) your name and address; (2) the name of the environmental assessment; (3) specific information, along with supporting reasons, you believe I should consider before making a decision. Comments received in response to this solicitation will become a matter of public record.\(^1\)

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Clyde N. Thompson CLYDE N. THOMPSON Forest Supervisor

<sup>1</sup>Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public recorded and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit such comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request that a submission be withheld from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that confidentiality is granted in only very limited circumstances. The Forest Service will inform the requester of its decision regarding a request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the submission will be returned and the requester notified that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address.

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